

Bryan Morning Eagle.

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LIGHTHOUSES IN WAR.

How They Can Be Used to Lure an Enemy's Ships to Destruction.

The lighthouse keeper has his special duties in times of war, and it is in his power to render valuable service to his country's cause. The extinguishing of the lights in the bay was the beginning of a policy which was outlined early in March by the Lighthouse Board.

At that time general instructions were issued to the keepers of the lighthouses ordering them to familiarize themselves and their assistants with all the requirements incident to the exigencies of war. The extinguishing of the shore lights will be a last resort, as the extensive commerce of foreign merchant vessels would be seriously interfered with by it. The order to put out these lights will only come in case of actual danger of invasion by foreign men-of-war.

In considering the various means by which the lighthouse keeper can render service in war time, it is necessary to know something of the lights themselves. In every lighthouse station the beacon has some characteristic with which the mariner is familiar, or which he may readily recognize by an examination of his chart. In some cases the beacon is a fixed, white light which never changes, but sends its rays far out to sea, where the watchful pilot recognizes it at a glance.

Other lights change from red to white, or the reverse, or show a disk, one side of which is white and the other red. The approaching mariner knows at once in what direction he should steer. If the red light is on the right and the white on the left side of the disk, he knows that by keeping to the left he will find a safe channel, while dangerous shoals await him in the opposite direction. Of course, it is obvious that the lighthouse keeper by reversing the colors on the disk could do inestimable damage to unfriendly vessels. In all such cases it is obvious that our own mariners must be warned in time of the changes contemplated.

Other lighthouses have a beacon flashing white at regular intervals. Thus the characteristic of the light at Fire Island is "one flash every minute." If this were changed, so that the light would flash only once in two minutes, the mariner would be as badly off as if there were no light at all. With the idea in his head that he had reached a point near Fire Island, the unusual signal would signify to him that his calculations were wrong, and that he was in an entirely different locality.

Another means by which the pilot gauges his location is the distance of visibility of the light. Shinnecock Light, for example, is a fixed white light situated on Piquogue Point, on the north side of Shinnecock Bay, L. I., one mile from the line of sea beach and about midway between Montauk Point and Fire Island light stations. It is visible at a distance of 18½ nautical miles. Now, if it were known that an enemy's ship were approaching, the light could be screened so as not to be visible at all or to be visible at a half or quarter of the usual distance. The vessel might thus be led into a trap before its pilot realized his proximity to the dangerous coast.

The changing of fog signals has also been contemplated as an effective means of deceiving the enemy. It is the opinion of those most familiar with the subject, however, that in cases of actual invasion of our waters by the enemy's ships the signals would be discontinued altogether.

The characteristics of fog signals are indicated by the length of blasts and the intervals at which they are given, and it is thought that changes might be misleading even to our own pilots.

PITH AND POINT.

"All the poets give us odes about Cuba." "Yes. Why don't they sing a few Philip-pineans?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"I never realized that American bullets flew so straight," gasped the Spanish sailor at Manila as a small shot crashed into his forehead. "In fact, such a thing never entered my head before."—Philadelphia Record.

"I suppose you communicate a great deal in ciphers," said the young woman. "Yes," replied the Spanish officer. "They are used a great deal in answering when I ask how much money they can let us have."—Washington Star.

"What are you taking that Cheap John watch to war with you for, Pete?" "Cause it won't run."—Detroit Free Press.

"The character of most of the war poetry that has appeared in print thus far," remarked the professor, flicking the ashes from the end of his cigar, "leads to the apprehension that this country is likely to be worse humiliated than Spain."—Chicago Tribune.

Drummer—Is your business affected by the war talk? Shaving Soap Manufacturer—No. We are doing a larger business than ever. Drummer—Well, come to think of it, there's a reason for that. S. S. M.—What is it? Drummer—Why, most men wear longer faces these days.—Brooklyn Life.

Townsend Got Even.

John Kendrick Bangs and Edward W. Townsend sometimes give public readings together. Bangs one night in a Western town "got the laugh" on his companion by gravely announcing: "I am to be followed by Mr. Townsend, who will read from his biography, 'Chimie Fadden.'" Townsend retorted by saying to his audience: "Speaking of biographies, Mr. Bangs made his first speech, as you know, with 'The Idiot.'"—

HE WAS A JINGO.

A Plain, Unvarnished, Undiplomatic Heap-Big American Jingo.

"Yep," said the man on the back seat of the trailer to his seatmate, "you've hit the bull's-eye right in the center. That's just what I am precisely—a jingo. I'm a plain, everyday, unvarnished, undiplomatic, whole team, heap-big American jingo from Jingo-ville, without any renewed assurances of distinguished consideration whatsoever. I'm glad that I'm a jingo. I don't want to be anything else but a jingo. George Washington was a jingo. Thomas Jefferson was a jingo. John Hancock was a jingo. Lincoln was a jingo. Blaine was a jingo. That's good enough company for me. I've got just as much common horse sense as you or any of my neighbors have, but I'm a jingo, all the same, and I'm going to keep right on being a jingo until they have cooked up an epitaph for my headboard. If I had the influence and the necessary organizing skill I'd start in right now and organize a political party that would take the rank and file of the taxpayers and good citizens of this country right off their feet—the jingo party of the United States of America. That's what I'd call it, and you can gamble your last pair of hose it would be supported. It wouldn't be supported by a pack of anarchists or war-pillage people, either. It would be upheld by men from Maine to California, just as dead square as I am myself, and as you know I am, that never peeped from behind the bars of a cell, never gave man or dog the worst of it, never bulldozed a woman, never spent a cent of other people's money, never did any crooked or dishonorable work whatsoever; men like me, that feel like taking off their bonnets and waving 'em in the air and whooping like Apaches every time they get within sight of an American flag; men like me, that get hoarse and choked up and speechless whenever they hear 'The Star Spangled Banner' or 'Hail Columbia,' whether they're played on an accordion or by a dinky brass band. That's the kind of people that would jump in a minute under the cover of a national jingo party, and be darned proud to belong to such a party as that. If there hadn't been any jingos in this country back in the days when men wore knee pants and powdered wigs there wouldn't have been any United States of America. I'm a jingo, as I say and repeat, and I'll keep on repeating it until that place down below freezes solid; but that doesn't mean that I'm yep enough to feel like trying to stand on Sandy Hook point and heave rocks across the sea at the walls of Madrid. It's all tommy-rot to try to make jingos out of that kind of people. But I was born and raised over on this upper part of the western hemisphere, and so were all my people for a whole long time back, and I like it and I'm stuck on it, and that's the reason I can't understand or get next to some of the kind of Americans that are hopping loose around this country just now, that jaw about the horrors of war under any and all circumstances, and try to make people like me believe that it's the real thing for this country to lay back and take cheap guff and side swats from all hands across the way that think they can put it on us. I'd like to see the inside of the heads of that kind of pollywogs and jellyfish. I'd like—"

But what else this self-confessed jingo (who looked like a pretty solid man, too,) would like, he finished telling when he got off the car.

Wickedest Villain on Earth.

The death of Tai Won Kun, father of the King of Corea, will simplify its politics. He was probably the wickedest villain on earth, and for fifty years had been at the bottom or the top of all the mischief that has occurred in the Hermit Kingdom. He was Regent during the minority of the King, who inherited the throne from a childless uncle, and ruled with the most brutal despotism for a quarter of a century. It was while he was at the head of affairs that we had our little war with Corea, which resulted in opening the country to foreigners. He was the foe of all forms of progress, and particularly hostile to missionaries and modern improvements. He murdered thousands of people who stood in his way or refused to bend to his will, and it took three years for the Government to get rid of him after the King became of age. Twice he was the prime mover in plots to assassinate his own son, and three times attempted the assassination of the Queen. The last attempt was successful in 1895.

The old sequestrated lived in a palace

New Mackerel

JUST RECEIVED.

THIS YEAR'S CATCH.

AT

JOHN B. MIKE,

The Original Cutter. Phone 40.

A few miles outside the city, surrounded by a double guard, one of his own, in whom he had confidence to protect him against the vengeance of those he had injured, and another provided by the Government to prevent him from leaving the place. He seems to have died a natural death, and it is almost a miracle, for no other man on earth was so viciously hated.

A Vast Sum Wasted.

A temperance orator says that \$368,000,000 was expended for beer alone in the United States last year. Assuming that the population of the United States was 70,000,000 this would be more than \$12 per capita for every man, woman and child in the United States, and we all know that there are lots of children in the United States who didn't have any beer at all last year.

German Navy Half a Century.

The German navy has only been in existence half a century, the first naval officer having been appointed in 1847.

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